

**Application No.:** 09/607,845  
**Filing Date:** June 30, 2000

### **REMARKS**

Claim 6 is now pending in the present application, Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-16, 18-20, 22, and 28-42 having been canceled without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the canceled claims or the scope of the previously unamended claims at a later date. In response to the Office Action transmitted October 29, 2007, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the above-captioned application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following comments.

#### **Acknowledgement of Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claim 6.

#### **Rejections**

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, 4, and 7-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,908,428 to Scirica, et al. Applicants do not agree with the rejection. However, Applicants have canceled without prejudice Claims 1, 2, 4, and 7-15 solely to expedite issuance of Claim 6, which has been indicated as allowed by the Examiner. Applicants reserve the right to pursue Claims 1, 2, 4, and 7-15 in the future.

#### **No Disclaimers or Disavowals**

Although the present communication may include alterations to the application or claims, or characterizations of claim scope or referenced art, the Applicants are not conceding in this application that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any alterations or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. The Applicants reserve the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that the Applicants have made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

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### CONCLUSION


The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to all of the rejections in the case, and to place the claims and conditions for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's attorney in order to resolve such issue promptly.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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By:   
Andrew M. Douglas  
Registration No. 51,212  
Attorney of Record  
Customer No. 20,995  
(949) 760-0404

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